

## **Stikes in Lima and Several Provinces on Wednesday, March 23rd, 2011**

Posted: March 22nd, 2011

On Wednesday, March 23, The General Confederation of Workers of Peru and the Union of Regional Fronts will initiate a nation-wide strike to call attention to a number of issues: labor reform, agricultural policies, construction projects and water rights issues.

The march in Lima will rally on the Plaza 2 de Mayo beginning at approximately 11 am and move to the Congress of the Republic at 11:30 am. Congress is located northeast of Plaza 2 de Mayo, on the second block of Jr. Ayacucho in front of the Plaza Bolivar in central Lima. The marches will have major affects on traffic patterns in the city as protestors move between various Peruvian government buildings and public plazas. The demonstrations may consist of mass protests, sit-ins, and even potential takeovers of government offices. The declared purpose of the rally is to draw the attention of the national and international press to the protestors' platform and declared grievances.

As part of the call for the nation-wide strike, demonstrations and marches by provincial leaders are also expected in Iquitos, Cajamarca, Arequipa, Cusco, and Loreto. In the provinces, it is likely the protests will also take place near government buildings and public plazas. Such demonstrations may affect major highways and can cause serious disruptions to air and rail transportation, including popular tourist destinations such as Machu Picchu. American citizens should be flexible in their travel plans and be prepared for travel delays.

Demonstrations in Peru are usually, but not always, peaceful, but can quickly escalate into violent confrontations. American citizens are advised to avoid large crowds and demonstrations and strongly encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance, maintain awareness of local events and their surroundings, and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. It is illegal in Peru for foreigners to participate in demonstrations. If you take part, you may be arrested.

End of Warden Message